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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,221	10/23/2003	Yun Lin	MS306621.1/MSFTP528US	8234
27195 7590 07/02/2007 AMIN. TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP 24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER 1900 EAST NINTH STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44114			EXAMINER NAWAZ, ASAD M	
			ART UNIT 2155	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,221

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL

Examiner

Asad M. Nawaz

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/5/04; 3/31/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the communications filed 10/23/03. Claims 1-44 are directed to a method and a system for resolving conflicts between a local cache and remote store. Accordingly claims 1-44 are pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner.

3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, it is unclear what is meant by "...between a client version of the one or file objects..." in claim 1. Also, it is unclear how one is able to detect a conflict if they are disconnected from the remote location. Furthermore, claims 2-22 should recite "The system of claim 1, *wherein* the component...". It is unclear what is meant by "the respective local caches" in Claim 12. Also, it is unclear who is modifying a client-cached file object in claim 23. Also, it is unclear what is meant by "if it conflicts with or newer than the server" in claim 23.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being taught by Pardikar et al (USPGPUB 2004/0236777) hereinafter referred to as Pardikar.

As to claim 1 Pardikar teaches a remote file system that promotes truth on a client, comprising: one or more client computers that operatively communicate with an online remote location to work on one or more file objects; (0013)

a caching component that selectively caches the one or more file objects to a local cache located on a respective client computer, thereby making it available to the client when disconnected from remote location; (Fig 6, 0004, 0018)

and a component that resolves conflicts between a client version of the one or file objects and a remote location version of the one or more file objects such that the client version overrides the remote location version when viewed on the client (0004).

As to claim 2 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the component that resolves conflicts is based at least in part upon user preferences (0022).

As to claim 3 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the component that resolves conflicts is based on a prioritization policy comprising an order of updating the file object (0022).

As to claim 4 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component pushes modifications made to the file object back to the remote location to update the remote location version on a periodic basis (0004).

As to claim 5 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 4, the periodic basis selected to maximize bandwidth usage and to mitigate potential data loss with respect to the client computer (0031).

As to claim 6 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the conflicts resulting from more than one client modifying the file object (0004).

As to claim 7 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component writes a modified file object back to the remote location (abstract).

As to claim 8 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component caches modified data and writes back to the remote location at one of the following events: at least before a corresponding handle closes; and the remote location revokes write buffering (0022, 0032).

As to claim 9 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component updates respective local caches when the file object is modified at the remote location

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while the respective client computers were disconnected from the remote location if local caches have not been updated while offline (0020-0023).

As to claim 10 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component flushes out stale data from local caches based at least in part upon at least one of the following: comparison of file signatures; and comparison of file properties (0022).

As to claim 11 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 10, the file properties comprising time stamp, file size, and revision count (0022).

As to claim 12 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component trims the respective local caches based at least in part upon user preferences (0022).

As to claim 13 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, further comprising a viewing component that allows a merged directory view, the merged directory view comprising current files not in conflict, current files in conflict between the remote location and the client computer, and files that are newly generated on one of the client and remote location (0023-0025).

As to claim 14 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 13, the viewing component facilitates a merged directory view when the client and remote location become connected once again to visualize changes made to file objects on the client and on the remote location during an offline period (abstract, 0004).

As to claim 15 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 13, the newly generated files are not present on the client cache but are viewable by the client before the client cache is updated (0022-0025, 0029-0033).

As to claim 16 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 13, the viewing component employs one or more visual or graphical enhancements to facilitate visualization of online conflicted files, offline conflicted files and overlays of files (0022-0025, 0029-0033).

As to claim 17 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 16, overlays of files refers to overlaying client version of the file object over the remote location version of the file object to facilitate visualizing one or more changes made to the file object by at least one of the remote location and the client (0022-0025, 0029-0033).

As to claim 18 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component silently pushes file objects added by the client to the remote location (0022-0025, 0029-0033).

As to claim 19 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, further comprising a synchronization component that background synchronizes namespaces not in conflict between the client and the remote location (0021).

As to claim 20 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the caching component triggers a corresponding directory change notification request whose physical share connection state has changed, to facilitate effectively enumerating any affected directory (0022-0025, 0029-0033).

As to claim 21 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, wherein creation of a new directory on a client is always satisfied (0023).

As to claim 22 Pardikar teaches the system of claim 1, the remote location comprises one or more servers (0013).

Claims 23-44 present no further limitations above claims 1-22 and are thus rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

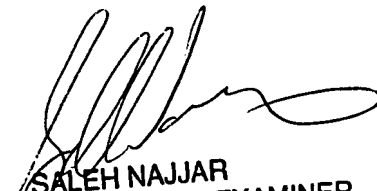
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asad M. Nawaz whose telephone number is (571) 272-3988. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER